

Message Text

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R 191632Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMCONSUL CURACAO

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FOLLOWING REPEAT SANTIAGO 7643 ACTION SECSTATE 12 NOV

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 7643

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECLA, PFOR

SUBJ: ECLA CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 264973

DEPARTMENT PASS INTERESTED LA POSTS AND USUN AS APPROPRIATE

1. SUMMARY. EMBOFF HAS SPOKEN TO ECLA CHEF DE CABINET JORGE
VITERI REGARDING SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS AND ATMOSPHERICS OF
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CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETING (CDCC)

HELD IN HAVANA OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 4. DOCUMENTATION ON
MEETPNG POQCHED TO DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 12. END SUMMARY.

2. VITERI, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED TO SANTIAGO, DESCRIBED MEETING
AS BUSINESS-LIKE (AT LEAST IN COMPARISON WITH MOST ECLA MEETINGS),
RELATIVELY FREE OF POLEMICS AND CUBAN BELLICOSITY, AND FAIRLY
LEVEL HEADED IN PARTICIPANTS APPROACH TO WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED
THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION. VITERI WAS AT PAINS TO ASSURE
EMBOFF THAT ECLA SECRETARIAT HAD CLEARLY DELINEATED LIMITATIONS
ON ITS POTENTIAL ASSISTANCE TO CDCC WORK PROGRAM BOTH AS RESPECTS
HUMAN RESOURCE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ALSO CDCC SUBSIDIARY
RELATIONSHIP TO ECLA PORT-OF-SPAIN (POS) OFFICE.

3. CDCC IS TO COMPRISE NINE STATES, CUBA, GUYANA, TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI, BARBADOS, JAMAICA, BAHAMAS
AND GRENADA. WEST INDIES ASSOCIATED STATES, BELICE, AND NETHER-
LAN ANTILLES WILL HAVE OBSERVER STATUS IN COMMITTEE. SURINAM WILL
BE ENTITLED TO FULL MEMBERSHIP UPON INDEPENDENCE AND ADMISSION TO
UN AND ECLA. ALL THE FOREGOING STATES EXCEPT SURINAM WERE RE-
PRESENTED AT THE HAVANA MEETING.

4. CONSTITUENT DECLARATION OF COMMITTEE (PROPOSED BY CUBA AND
GUYANA) ENUMERATES TWENTY-TWO AREAS IN WHICH MEMBER COUNTRIES
"DECLARETHEIR POLITICAL WILL AND THEIR RESOLUTION" TO COOPERATE,
HARMONIZE POLICIES, AND UNDERTAKE JOINT ACTION. THESE RANGE
FROM AGRICULTURE, FISHING, TOURISM, AND ECONOMIC DATA COLLECTION,
TO ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES AND
RELATIONS WITH SELA.

5. PERHAPS POTENTIALLY MOST TROUBLESOME FOR US IS RESOLUTION TO
EXERCISE SOLIDARITY (A) A FACE OF EXTERNAL PRESSURE OR COERCION
AGAINST SUB-REGION COUNTRIES EXERCISING "THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS
TO PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY"; (B) AGAINST PREDATORY TRANSNATIONAL CORP-
ORATIONS; AND (C) IN FAVOR OF LDCCS PURSUING EQUITABLE COMMIDITY
PRICES.

6. ALSO POTENTIALLY CONTENTIOUS IS RESOLUTION TO EXAMINE, WITH
COUNTRIES SERVICED BY ECLAS MEXICO CITY AND BOGOTA OFFICE
(EXCEPT ECUADOR), "THE QUESTION OF A COMMON CARIBBEAN POSITION
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ON THE LAW OF THE SEA AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT SECURING INTERNATION-
AL RECOGNITION FOR A SPECIAL REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN MULTI-
STATE ARCHIPELAGO WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA." ACCORDING TO VITERI, ECLA
SECRETARIAT HAD POINTED OUT THAT LOS MATTERS FELL OUTSIDE ECLA'S
JURISDICTIONAL COMPETENCE, NEVERTHELESS SOME MEMBERS HAD INSISTED
LOS CONFERENCE PREGNANT WITH ECONOMIC CONTENT. HENCE COORDINA-
TION OF COUNTRY POLICIES THROUGH GDCC APPROPRIATE.

7. RESOLUTIONS ALSO WERE ADOPTED TO CONVOKE MEETING OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITY RECTORS TO CONSIDER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS TROPICAL AGRICULTURE. TRINIDAD OFFERED TO HOST BOTH LOS AND UNIVERSITY RECTORS' MEETINGS AND BEAR ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS. LASTLY, RESOLUTION WAS RATIFIED REQUESTING ECLA EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT IDENTIFY CONCRETE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH COMMITTEE COUNTRIES AND OTHER ECLA MEMBER COUNTRIES SERVICED BY MEXICO CITY AND BOGOTA OFFICES CAN COOPERATE; ALSO INVITE SUPPORT OF UNDP AND PERTINENT SPECIALIZED UN AGENCIES TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE.

9. WORK PROGRAM ADOPTED BY CDCC IS HORTATORY DOCUMENT FOR IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTIONS OF CONSTITUENT DECLARATION. OF INTEREST IS PROPOSAL FOR PREPARING "FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON THE SETTING UP OF MULTI-COUNTRY CARIBBEAN ENTERPRISES TO EXPLOIT SPECIFIC NATURAL RESOURCES SUCH AS BAUXITE, NICKEL AND PETROLEUM-BASED FERTILIZERS." GREAT STRESS IS PLACED ON COORDINATION OF COMMITTEE WORK WITH SELA. IDEALOGICAL BIAS OF PAPER REFLECTING BY SUCH STATEMENTS AS "IMPACT ON THE BOP OF THESE COUNTRIES EXERTED BY INFLATION WHICH HAS ITS ORIGIN IN CERTAIN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES."

10. SECRETARIAT PAPER ON FINANCIAL REPERCUSSIONS NOTES ECLA HAS BUDGETED FOR COMMITTEE ANNUAL SESSIONS, EXHORTS MEMBER COUNTRIES TO WORK FOR LARGER UN APPROPRIATIONS TO ECLA POS OFFICE, AND SUGGESTS UNDP AND OTHER AGENCY SUPPORT WILL BE NEEDED TO CARRY OUT WORK PROGRAM.

11. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S OFFER TO HOST NEXT ANNUAL SESSION OF COMMITTEE WAS ACCEPTED.

POPPER

UNQTE. KISSINGER

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